GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:251
ANSWERED ON:19.02.2003
INDIANS LANGUISHING IN PAKISTAN JAILS
BHUPENDRASINH PRABHATSINH SOLANKI;CHANDRA NATH SINGH;GADDE RAMAMOHAN;JAYABEN B. THAKKAR;M.V.V.S MURTHI;NIVEDITA MANE;SADASHIVRAO DADOBA MANDLIK;T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI;YEMPARALA VENKATESWARA RAO

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian civilians and fishermen languishing in the jails of Pakistan as on date ; and

(b) the efforts made for their release by the Government so far and the outcome thereof ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI VINOD KHANNA)

(a) As per available information, 878 Indian civilian prisoners and 416 Indian fishermen are currently in custody in Pakistan.

(b) Government have consistently taken up the issue of their release and repatriation with the Government of Pakistan through diplomatic channels. Government of Pakistan is, however, yet to take necessary action for the release of Indian prisoners in its custody.